

Appointments to Saskatoon Airport Authority

ISSUE

Saskatoon City Council has expressed concerns with respect to the current process for appointment of the City's nominee to the Saskatoon Airport Authority. How can the City of Saskatoon bring the process to populate its nominees to the Saskatoon Airport Authority in line with City Council's process for appointments to the Statutory Boards and Controlled Corporations?

BACKGROUND

At the meeting of the Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) held on May 21, 2019, the Committee received a report from the City Clerk (Appendix 1) providing information on appointments to the Saskatoon Airport Authority made by City Council. GPC subsequently reported to City Council on May 27, 2019, at which time it was resolved:

1. That the Administration report back on how to populate the City of Saskatoon's nominees to the Saskatoon Airport Authority where City Council is providing the recommended nominees; and
2. That City Council make its nominations for appointments to the Saskatoon Airport Authority during its regular appointment process.

CURRENT STATUS

City Council has established a recruitment process for appointments to Controlled Corporations and Statutory Boards which, in summary, requires the Controlled Corporation or Board to annually in the fall provide the City Clerk's Office with a list of criteria it wishes to have considered for appointees to the Board. The City Clerk's Office publicly advertises and once the deadline for applications has passed, the applications are passed on to the Corporation or Board for vetting. The Corporation or Board reviews the applications, conducts interviews and reports back to GPC *In Camera* with its recommendation(s) for appointment including reasons. GPC reviews the recommendations at an *In Camera* session and subsequently makes a recommendation to City Council for approval.

As set out in the referenced report to GPC in May, 2019, typically, in November of each year, a letter is received from the Board Chair of the Saskatoon Airport Authority stating that The City of Saskatoon is a Nominator of the Corporation and has nominating responsibility for three persons to be Members and Directors of the Corporation. The communication identifies that the term of office of one or more of the City's nominees will expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Public Meeting of the Corporation and goes on to identify for the City, the person that the Corporation recommends for nomination to the Saskatoon Airport Authority. Should the City of Saskatoon not wish to nominate the named person or extend the nomination of the named person, officials of the City are asked to contact the writer.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Following the May meeting of City Council, the City Clerk and Interim City Solicitor contacted the Saskatoon Airport Authority to follow up on Council's direction that the Administration report back on how to populate the City of Saskatoon's nominees to the Saskatoon Airport Authority (SAA) where City Council is providing the recommended nominees and further where nominations for appointments to the SAA are made during the regular appointment process.

Following consultations with Mr. Jim Kerby, SAA Board Chair and Mr. David Weger, the attached draft Director Recruitment & Nomination Protocol (Appendix 2), dated August 2019, was provided. The SAA has advised that the proposed process represents a combination of the City's process (for controlled corporations) and the current SAA process – blending aspects of each in an effort to arrive at a mutually agreeable Director recruitment and nomination process. The draft protocol includes an invitation to the City to provide the SAA with the name of one individual, appointed by the City, to sit on the Selection Committee as a voting member (non-elected official).

Mr. Jim Kerby, SAA Board Chair, will be in attendance at the meeting to speak to the proposed protocol and answer questions.

NEXT STEPS

Should GPC wish to adopt the proposed protocol, or a variation of the proposal, the appropriate recommendation(s) should be forwarded to City Council for approval. The City Clerk's Office would then follow up in accordance with the adopted process.

APPENDICES

1. Report of City Clerk to GPC, May 21, 2019
2. Draft Director Recruitment & Nomination Protocol (SAA)

Report Approval

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Reviewed by: Cindy Yelland, Interim City Solicitor
Approved by: Joanne Sproule, City Clerk

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